Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NASA-01 MCT-01 DHA-02 ACDA-07 /079 W --------131901Z 051090 /50

R 131417Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
TO SECSTATE WASH DC 410
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

CONFIDENTIAL VICTORIA 328

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS,PINT,SE

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES COUP D'ETAT: RENE'S JUNE 9 SPEECH TO NATION

1. "PRESIDENT" RENE DELIVERED BRIEF RADIO STATEMENT EVENING OF JUNE 9 IN WHICH HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO CREATE A "NEW SOCIETY"

WHICH WOULD PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AND IN WHICH ALL WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES FREELY. HE ANNOUNCED THE ESTA-LISHMENT OF A "SMALL OFFICE" TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PERFORMANCE. HE ADDED THAT KEY ELEMENT IN NEW SOCIETY WAS NEED FOR MUTUAL RESPECT. RENE NOTED THAT SOME MINOR ACTS OF HARASSEMENT HAD BEEN DIRECTED BY HIS FOLLOWERS AGAINST KNOWN MANCHAM SDP SUPPORTERS AND SAID SUCH ACTIONS WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED.

2. HE CHARGED THAT MANCHAM WAS ENGAGED IN RECRUITING MERCENARIES THROUGH A "FEW RICH FRIENDS" AND CALLED ON PEOPLE TO BE PREPARED TO DEFEND SEYCHELLES "TO THE LAST DROP OF BLOOD." TO HELP DEFEND SEYCHELLES, HE ANNOUNCED ESTABLISHMENT OF A "PEOPLES MILITIA" CONFIDENTIAL.

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COMPOSED OF MALE AND FEMALE VOLUNTEERS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 60 WHOSE PRINCIPAL FUNCTION, HE SAID, WOULD BE TO KEEP VIGILANT LOOKOUT FOR SEAWARD INVADERS. VOLUNTEERS (WHO WOULD NOT BE PAID) WERE INVITED TO REGISTER AT POLICE STATIONS ALL DAY JUNE 10. WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO GET A READING ON NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO CAME FORWARD. (COMMENT: SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT MAIN PURPOSE BEHIND CREATION OF PEOPEL'S MILITIA WAS TO

SANCTION POSSESSION OF ARMS BY RENE'S CIVILIAN IRREGULARS).

3. FINALLY RENE ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "LIBERATION MEMORIAL FUND" IN HONOR OF THOSE KILLED IN THE JUNE 5 COUP. HE INVITED PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH WOULD BE USED TO PROVIDE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES OF COUP VICTIMS WITH ANY EXCESS TO BE DEVOTED TO CONSTRUCTION OF LOW COST HOUSING.

MATTSON

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Subject: SEYCHELLES COUP D\'ETAT: RENE\'S JUNE 9 SPEECH TO NATION

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